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A TRUE

ACCOUNT

OF

The Horrid Murther

Committed upon His GRACE,

The Late

LORD ARCHBISHOP

OF

Saint Andrews,

Primate and Metropolitan of all *SCOTLAND*, and One of His *MAJESTIES* Most Honourable Privy Council of that KINGDOM.

WITH A

DETECTION

Of the LYES Publiſhed in a late Scandalous RELATION of that MURTHER, and of the Pretended Occaſion thereof.

Publiſhed by Authority.

LONDON:

Printed by *T. N.* for *Andrew Forreſter*, next Door to the Mitre Tavern in *Kingſtreet Weſtminſter*. 1679.

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Of His GRACE

The Lord Archbiſhop of *St. Andrews, &c.*

AFTER that GOD had Reſtored to theſe Kingdoms their KING and Liberty, (Mercies never to be forgot, till by our Ingratitude for them we have deſerved to be thrown back into thoſe Miſeries, that we have ſo lately eſcapèd) Reaſonable Men might have concluded, That we would have reſted with much Satisfaction, under thoſe great Bleſſings, for which we had ſo much longed. But that reſtleſs Bigottry, which had in the late Rebellion diſtracted our Religion, diſſolved Monarchy, unhinged our Property, and enſlaved our Liberties, did ſoon prompt the Execrable Authors of *Naphthali*, and *Jus Populi*, who in thoſe Books endeavoured to perſwade all Men to Maſſacre their Governours and Judges by the miſapplyed Example of holy *Phineas*, and did in Specifick Terms aſſert, That there could be no greater Gift made to *JESUS CHRIST*, than the ſending the Archbiſhop of St. *Andrews*'s Head in a Silver Box to the *KING*: Which

Jus Populi, Pag. 471. and 472.

Which Doctrine prevailed with Mr. *James Mitchell*, a Zealous *Naphthalite*, to attempt the Killing of the ſaid Lord Archbiſhop upon the chief Street of *Edenburgh*, in face of the Sun, and of the Multitude. And he having died owning his Crime as a Duty, and others having Writ Books comparing him in this Crime to *Sampſon*; Twelve, or more, of the ſame Sect, did upon the Third Day of *May* laſt Murther the ſaid Archbiſhop in this enſuing manner.

After His GRACE had gone from the Secret Council, where (to aggravate their Crime) he had been Pleading moſt fervently for Favours to them, having Lodged at a Village called *Kennoway* in *Fiffe*, upon *Friday*-night, the Second of *May*, He took his Journey next Morning at Ten a Clock towards St. *Andrews*; and his Coach-man having diſcovered ſome Horſe-men near to *Magus*, (a Place near Two Miles diſtant from St. *Andrews*) advertiſed the Archbiſhop thereof, asking, If he ſhould drive faſter? which His GRACE diſcharged, becauſe he ſaid he feared no harm: They drawing nearer, his Daughter ſeeing Piſtols in their Hands, and them Riding at a great rate, ſhe perſwaded her Father to look out, and he thereupon deſired his Coach-man to drive on; who had certainly out-driven them, if one *Balfour* of *Kinloch*, being mounted on a very Fleet Horſe, had not cunningly paſſed the Coach, (into which they had in vain diſcharged very many Shot) and after he found that he could not wound the Coach-man, becauſe his Coach-Whip did fright the ſprightly Horſe, wounded the Poſtillion, and diſabled the foremoſt Coach-Horſes: Whereupon the reſt coming up, one of them with a Blunderbuſs wounded the Lord Primate in the Coach, and others of them called to him to *Come forth, Vile DOG, who had betrayed CHRIST and His CHURCH, and to receive what he deſerved for his Wickedneſs againſt the KIRK of SCOTLAND*; and reproached him with Mr. *James Mitchell's* Death. Whilſt he was in the Coach, one run him through with a Sword under his Shoulder, the reſt pulled him violently out of the Coach. His Daughter came out, and on her Knees begun to beg Mercy to her Father: But they beat her, and trampled her down. The Lord Primate with a very great calmneſs, ſaid, *Gentlemen, I know not that ever I injured any of You; and if I did, I promiſe I will make what Reparation you can propoſe.* *Villain, and* Judas, ſaid they, *and Enemy to GOD and His People, You ſhall now have the Reward of your Enmity to GOD's People:*

People: which Words were followed with many Mortal Wounds, the firſt being a deep one above his Eye. And though he put them in mind that he was a Miniſter, and pulling off his Cap, ſhewed them his Gray Hairs, intreating, *That if they would not ſpare his Life, they would at leaſt allow him ſome little time for Prayer*; they returned him no other anſwer, but *That GOD would not hear ſo baſe a DOG as he was; and for Quarter, they told him, That the Stroaks, which they were then giving, were thoſe which he was to expect.* Notwithſtanding of all which, and of a Shot that pierced his Body above his Right Pap, and of other Stroaks which cut his Hands, whilſt he was holding them up to Heaven in Prayer, he raiſed himſelf upon his Knees, and uttered only theſe Words, *GOD FORGIVE YOU ALL.* After which, by many Stroaks that cut his Skull to pieces, he fell down dead. But ſome of them imagining they had heard him groan, returned, ſaying, *That he was of the Nature of a Cat, and ſo they would go back, and give one Stroak more for the Glory of GOD.* And having ſtirred about his Brains in the Skull with the Points of their Swords, they took an Oath of his Servants, not to reveal their Names; and ſo deſiring them to take up their Prieſt, they rode back to *Magus*, crying aloud, *That Judas was Kill'd*, and from thence made their Eſcape. But GOD having in an unexpected way furniſhed Probation againſt all who were preſent, it cannot but with a Dutiful Confidence be expected, that His DIVINE MAJESTY, who is ſo highly offended, will, by the ſame care, bring the Aſſaſſinates themſelves to ſuffer for that Crime.

This *NARRATIVE*, warranted by the Depoſitions of many famous Perſons upon Oath, will diſcover the many falſe Inſinuations expreſſed in a late RELATION Printed at *LONDON:* For whereas it is pretended, That this Murther proceeded from a Private Injury done to one of the Aſſaſſinates, the contrary will eaſily appear by theſe Subſequent Conſiderations.

Firſt, That this Murthering Principle has been Printed and Practiſed by others formerly againſt the ſame Perſon, ſuch as he never knew nor offended.

Secondly, It appears by the many Expreſſions aforeſaid that he ſuffered for his Function.

Thirdly, Many of the ſame Perſwaſion had foretold it in ſeveral Places; and one of the Murtherers had that Morning, after a Sacrilegious Form of Devotion, held up his Hand and ſworn, *That*

that Hand ſhould Kill the Archbiſhop; whereupon his Hoſteſs Kiſſed him. Nor can it be denied, but that he, who commanded the Foot for Mr. *Welſh* upon *Renpar-Law*, (that famous Field-Conventicle) owned, That their Friends thanked *GOD* for the Archbiſhop's Death, but were ſorry they knew not to whom they owed the Obligation.

Fourthly, It is known both by all the Archbiſhop's Acquaintance, and the preſent low State of his Fortune, that he never uſed any Rigour to his Debtors: And one of the Lords of Seſſion, who tranſacted that inconſiderable Affair relating to *Hackſtoun*, (on which the Falſe NARRATIVE charges this Murther) did declare publickly amongſt his Brethren-Judges, That the Archbiſhop had dealt moſt Generouſly with that Miſcreant, who was never a Servant to His GRACE. And how can it be pretended, in a Nation, where no Man was ever Murthered for uſing Legal Execution, even in the greateſt Concerns, that the other Eleven would have hazarded their Lives and Fortunes in Killing a Church-Man, and a Privy Councellor, to ſatisfie the uſeleſs Revenge of one of their Number in ſo mean a matter? And, their not taking his Gold nor Watch, and a conſiderable Sum which lay open enough in the Coach, did convincingly prove; That there was more of Bigottry than of Avarice in that Undertaking.

Fifthly, It is undeniable, that thoſe of that ſame Profeſſion and Way, have lately wounded many of *His MAJESTIES* Officers, for putting of his Uncontroverted Laws in Execution; and particularly they contrived the Death of the Town Major of *Edenburgh*, and in purſuance of that Deſign, did with many Wounds leave him, and ſome of *His MAJESTIES* Souldiers, almoſt dead upon the Place, one of them having been actually Killed. They alſo at *Loudoun* Killed one of *His MAJESTIES* Souldiers in his Bed, and Wounded and Robbed others of them without the leaſt Provocation; pretending in defence of their Cruelty, That the Souldiers were Enemies to CHRIST, and that they would conclude themſelves Damned, if they paid the Ceſs granted by the Convention of all the Three Eſtates for the neceſſary Defence of the Kingdom.

Sixthly, By a *MANIFESTO* diſperſed ſome few Days before the Murther, His GRACE, and all who ſerved the *KING* in *Faſſe*, were threatned with certain Death. All which does but too much juſtifie the Courſes taken in that Kingdom againſt ſuch

People,

People, and refutes ſuch as make that paſs for Cruelty, which is but neceſſary, and Self-defence: And by all which it appears, that this Murther was not occaſioned by Private Reſentments, but by the Principles of *Naphthali*, and ſuch as were Notorious Ring-leaders in that Tribe, and their Conventicles.

It is likewiſe very obſervable, That the Author of that moſt Scandalous *NARRATIVE*, has impiouſly Lyed, in aſſerting, That the Bullets did not pierce the Archbiſhop's Body; inſinuating thereby that he was hard: Where s by a Declaration under the Hands of a Phyſician and three Chyrurgions, (of which, *William Borthwick*, to whom that Author impudently appeals, is one) it is moſt evident, that the Archbiſhop's Body was pierced by one of thoſe Shots: The Words of which Declaration (ſtill remaining amongſt the Warrants of the Privy Council) are theſe, *The firſt of theſe Wounds, being two or three Inches below the Right Clavicle, betwixt the ſecond and third Rib, which was given by a Shot not reaching the capacity of the Breaſt.* Captain *Carſtaires* likewiſe had no Commiſſion from the Archbiſhop, but from the the Privy Council; and Baily *Carmichaell* had no Commiſſion from the Privy Council, but from the Earl of *Rothes*, Lord High Chancellor, and Sheriff Principal of *Fiffe* by Inheritance

The Horrour that attends this Fact, the Dreadful Events for which it makes way, and the Scandal that it raiſes upon the True Proteſtant Religion, cannot but breed in all Juſt Men, a Deteſtation of the Principles from whence it flowed, and an Abhorrence of Thoſe, who endeavour to extenuate it with falſe Pretences.

FINIS.